



CALPEEK

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CALPEEK GOES TO WAR - PART III: CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS JUMP ON ANTI-HUSSEIN BANDWAGON.

Editor's note: While CALPEEK was being printed Jan. 31, the Calif. State Assembly was debating 3 resolutions putting the CA State Legislature on record with regard to the Persian Gulf War. Here is CALPEEK's brief report...

...Saddam Hussein-bashing in the State Capitol is the newest game in town and by all accounts is very popular and totally bipartisan. Hardliners like GOP Assemblyman Gil Ferguson of Orange Co. and liberals like Senate President David Roberti of Los Angeles are representative of the Demo and GOP members who have jumped into the bashing act...

...But politically, the guy who is under the microscope is Calif.'s most famous anti-war activist, Demo Assemblyman Tom Hayden of Santa Monica. Although Hayden's 3 AJRs weren't debated Jan. 31, they include AJR 14, 15 & 16. AJR 14 calls for better fuel efficiency for new cars; AJR 15 calls for more benefits for Persian Gulf veterans; and AJR 16 asks George Bush to use economic sanctions rather than ground troops to get Iraq out of Kuwait...

...Originally, Hayden wanted to place an amendment on Ferguson's AJR 11. That AJR spells out Hussein's atrocities and praises both Pres. Bush's policy and U.S. troops. Although CALPEEK didn't see a copy of Hayden's amendment, one source told CALPEEK that a number of Demo lawmakers were upset with the wording. That amendment was pulled by Hayden...

...In terms of other resolutions and amendments, Assemblyman Tom Bane (D-Van Nuys) had an amendment to AJR #11 praising Israel's restraint; while Roberti's SJR #6 condemns Iraq's "outrageous, unprovoked" SCUD rocket

attacks on Israel. Bottomline: Hayden, who has been fairly low keyed until now, had better walk on eggshells from here on out — or he could end up in political hot water. Stay tuned...

RE-ESTABLISHING A U.S. ENERGY POLICY: WILL PRESSURE MOUNT FOR ENERGY INDEPENDENCE????

Editor's note: Although it may be very difficult to launch at the current time due to the recession and Persian Gulf War, CALPEEK sources say there will be an effort to once again re-establish a meaningful ENERGY POLICY that will make the U.S. independent of foreign oil. Here's CALPEEK's report...

...During the Carter Administration, the U.S. did enact a 3-pronged energy policy which included a strategic petroleum reserve (SPR), a well-funded synthetic fuels program and fuel standards for autos. But when the Reagan team took over, the policy was all but dumped, except for the SPR. (Fuel/MPG standards for cars were rolled back in 1986. Attempts to increase the fuel efficiency standards continue to face White House opposition)...

... Why was the policy abandoned? Most sources lay the blame on CHEAP, IMPORTED OIL. About half of all the oil used in the U.S. comes from foreign sources — 25% from the Persian Gulf and another big hunk from Mexico. Even at \$20 per barrel, it's still cheaper to import than to develop new types of energy or to explore domestically. What will an oil glut or low oil prices do to the push for a new policy? Experts think oil may drop to as low as \$10-15 per barrel after the war. While is this great news for the American consumer (and politically fantastic news for George Bush), some CALPEEK sources say cheap oil is no substitute for a sound energy policy, regardless of

{Continued Next Page}

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its inflation-fighting impact on the U.S. economy...

...If the pressure grows for a meaningful energy policy, will such a policy be similar to the Carter plan? Most sources say YES. As spelled out by various CALPEEK sources, the plan would continue with the SPR(now with 600 million barrels of oil in reserve), an EXPANDED energy conservation program, more domestic exploration and a search for new types of energy to add to the current mix...

...Of the 4 points, the most controversial would be more domestic exploration, which means opening up offshore fields and drilling for oil in Alaska's wildlife refuge. In either case, environmentalists will go absolutely nuts and political conflict will result, especially here in Calif., where anti-war activists have been demanding NO BLOOD FOR OIL. In some cases, these are the same folks who are dead set against any offshore exploration...

...The oil companies' battle cry is Point Arguello - an offshore field along Calif.'s Central Coast. This field may contain 200 million barrels of oil, but is hung up in local bureaucratic red tape. The platform is already in place but oil can't be pumped because of permit problems...

...In terms of new energy sources, other than oil and natural gas, the U.S. is blessed with huge deposits of COAL (we're the Saudi Arabia of coal) and OIL SHALE. The problem with coal is that R&D hasn't yet developed an economical way to make this energy product environmentally acceptable. As for oil shale, L.A.-based Unocal is the only energy firm still producing shale oil on Colorado's Western Slope, but it is a very expensive proposition. In 1990, the Unocal oil shale project will be near the break-even point, with U.S. price supports. L.A.-based Occidental Petroleum recently pulled the plug on its oil shale venture...

...As for expanded use of NUCLEAR power, that's about as popular as Saddam Hussein, due to the 3 Mile Island and the Chernobyl accidents in the 1980s. Yet many sources still feel nuclear power may yet prove itself to be both economical and safe...

...Politically speaking, it's not going to be easy to re-establish an energy program.

The auto companies will fight hard against any new fuel standards and President Bush will be pushing for more defense spending, meaning there will be little money for new energy programs. And then there are the consumers: are they willing to give up cheap, imported oil? We'll have to wait and see. Stay tuned...

GOP HARDLINERS BATTLE MODERATES FOR CONTROL & DOMINANCE OF CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY.

When the final gavel bangs to a close the annual convention of the Calif. Republican Party on Feb. 24th in Sacto, what observers may find is a political party SOLIDLY controlled by hardline conservatives. According to CALPEEK sources, a major battle between the hardliners and moderates is now underway to line up delegate votes. Many CALPEEK sources give the edge to the hardliners...

...While some CALPEEK sources insist that this in-fighting is routine among the two wings of the CRP, others don't buy that, especially in light of what has happened to hardline conservatives since Jan. 7th, when Pete Wilson was sworn in as Calif.'s new governor...

...For those with short memories, Wilson's list of appointments to various administration and cabinet level jobs reads like the who's who of moderate, PRO-CHOICE politics, and even includes some Democrats, the latest being Andrew Mecca, former chair of the State Self-Esteem Task Force, who is now Wilson's choice for Director of the State Dept. of Alcohol & Drug Programs. Top it off with John Seymour as Wilson's replacement in the U.S. Senate and the hardliners are NOT HAPPY CAMPERS...

...How to fight back? While there may not be a great deal of open Wilson-bashing at the Feb. 22-24 GOP convention, sources say the hardliners will seek to send Wilson a loud message by OUSTING all moderate elements within the CRP hierarchy. And while there is no major contest for CRP chair, because current Vice Chair Jim Dignan is unopposed, various CALPEEK sources see nasty battles shaping up for lesser offices...

...For example: CRP Treas. Paul Hancock, a moderate, is under siege from former GOP Assemblyman Bill Duplissee; moderate Yvonne Nix, the CRP's 2nd Asst. Sec., who is seek-

ing to move up to 1st Asst. Sec., is being challenged by Betty Cordoba; and Mrs. Phil Moore, a Wilson supporter who is the CRP's Regional Vice Chair for So. Calif., is being challenged by Dan Pellissier. Another battle may see former Calif. Lt. Gov. Ed Reinecke go up against former CRP Chair Tirso Del Junco for the office of Vice Chairman of the CRP. Del Junco is a heavy favorite in this race...

...What will be the impact of a total conservative takeover? The moderates predict DOOM & GLOOM, with resolutions opposing CHOICE and a new round of GAY BASHING. The moderates feel hardline politics will make it more difficult to recruit new Republican members. Conservatives disagree...

...BOTTOMLINE: Will Gov. Wilson ever be able to mend fences with the hardliners? The answer is NO, but it doesn't mean Pete Wilson will be constantly fighting with them either. Conservative sources say Wilson still has an opportunity to salvage a cordial, working relationship IF he plays his cards right and doesn't do anything else to anger the RIGHT. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK's JERRY BROWN WATCH: LIVELY FIGHT UNDERWAY FOR CDP CHAIR, AS BROWN TO QUIT...

As CALPEEK went to press, several reliable sources have confirmed that CA Demo Party Chair Jerry Brown will call it quits. With Brown out as CDP chairman, two Demo Party activists are now at work lining up support in what could be a real Demo Party brawl. In one camp is CDP Controller Mitchell Fine of S.F. Fine's major competitor is Sacramento developer Phil Angelides, a longtime Demo fundraiser...

...As Fine's camp sees the looming battle, it's a fight between those Demos closely linked to the Demo Legislative leadership (Angelides) vs. the party activists (Fine). However, that's a simplistic view and does not take into account that Angelides has a much larger base of support. However, it's no secret that those Demo lawmakers who support Angelides blame Jerry Brown for the loss of the governorship and AG's office. They blame Brown for a no-show on an effective GOTV program and a poor voter registration effort prior to the election...

...In the past few months, Angelides has

been in the forefront of a fight with Brown to get the CDP to allocate a large chunk of its monthly telemarketing funds to 1991-92 GOTV and voter registration programs. The Angelides proposal is now in the form of a resolution, which will be presented to delegates at the annual convention, Mar. 1-3 in Oakland. Sources say Fine is opposed to this resolution....

...The battle between Angelides and Fine has all the drama of a special election; with Fine having just hired the S.F.-based campaign firm of Whitehurst & Nelson to run his effort, while Angelides has hired longtime friend, Bob Mulholland, who ran YES on BIG GREEN last year. Consultant David Townsend also is involved...

...FYI: The Nelson in Whitehurst & Nelson is Phyllis Nelson, who WAS one of the original endorsers of Angelides' resolution. But when her firm took on Fine's campaign, she pulled her support. Stay tuned...

35th S.D. SPECIAL UPDATE: FIELD EXPANDS.

Add at least one more viable Republican candidate to the already crowded field in the 35th Senate District in Orange County. The latest entrant is Orange City Councilmember William G. Steiner, a moderate Republican who is director of the Orangewood Children's Foundation...

...Steiner, who became a Republican 8 years ago, has hired consultants David Ellis and Scott Hart to run his campaign. Others in the race include GOP Assemblymembers Doris Allen, Nolan Frizzelle and John Lewis, and Orange Co. attorney Dana Reed. Allen, Frizzelle and Lewis are the more conservative candidates, while Reed and Steiner are much more moderate in their stance. Put another way, Reed and Steiner are PRO-CHOICE, while the other Republicans are PRO-LIFE. The 35th S.D. is heavily Republican, but in a special, Demos can CROSS-OVER to vote...

...Frizzelle and Lewis are both out on the street with absentee voter ballot applications. AVs will be a key to victory...

...Is there a favorite? Frizzelle's assembly district takes in 34% of the 35th S.D., while Lewis represents 33% of the 35th. Allen's district takes in only 6%, while

{Continued Next Page}

the City of Orange accounts for 15% of the 35th. In terms of polling data, it shows there is no one leader, with all the candidates having fairly low name I.D...

...Do any of the candidates have negatives? According to several sources, Lewis really takes it on the chops due to his part in the 1986 Phony White House Letters Case, where the unauthorized signature of former Pres. Ronald Reagan was used in campaign mail for GOP candidates. Consultant Harvey Englander, who is running Reed's campaign, says, "Lewis has more baggage than Orange Co.'s John Wayne Airport." Another insider noted that Lewis' negatives should be even higher once Englander and others are finished with the direct mail "carpet bombing." CALPEEK will check bomb damage assessment in an upcoming issue. Stay tuned...

IF ROOS QUILTS, WHO RUNS FOR THE 46th A.D.??

As reported in last week's CALPEEK, Demo Assemblyman Mike Roos of Los Angeles may resign his 46th A.D. post to take a lucrative job with an as yet unnamed educational foundation aimed at improving the L.A. School District. As CALPEEK went to press, Roos had not made a decision. However, if he does resign, as some CALPEEK sources think he will, who will run for his seat? The district, which takes in much of Central L.A., parts of Hollywood, Los Felix and Silverlake, has a 58% Demo voter registration, which means a GOP candidate would have a tough time winning...

...CALPEEK sources have come up with at least 5 Democratic possibles. They include John Wasielewski, Roos's current COS; Peter Taylor, a PA exec with GTE who used to be Roos's COS; John Emerson, a top deputy to L.A. City Atty. Jim Hahn; Jim Dantona, a political consultant; and atty. Bob Burke. There had been talk that L.A. 2000 exec. director Jane Pisano might be interested, but she told CALPEEK she's not exploring...

...Of this field, perhaps the most interesting candidate is Burke. He is a mainline, progressive Demo Party activist, who has lots of IOUs due him for past favors. He also happens to be GAY...

...Burke would not be the first gay to take a serious look at the 46th. In 1985-86, the late Peter Scott, a well known gay leader, was all set to run, only to withdraw in

early 1986 before filing. He had AIDS. Burke told CALPEEK he's been getting phone calls from across the U.S. encouraging him to run. If he were to win, it would be a first. Demographics suggest a gay Democrat would have a shot to win in the 46th A.D. More next week...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook:

- Jennifer Openshaw, who was press secretary in Kathleen Brown's campaign, named press deputy in Off. of State Treasurer...
- Terri Jonisch moves her PA/PR consulting firm to 11712 Moorpark Street, #107, Studio City, CA 91604 (818)763-5036...
- The CA Building Industry Assn.(CBIA) has named Clifford Allenby as Sr. VP of government affairs. Allenby was the CA Health & Welfare agency secretary in the Deukmejian Admin...

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